

DTaP

Vaccines*	Recommended Ages	Dosages/ Administration	Intervals
Daptacel® (Sanofi Pasteur)	Primary doses: (minimum age – 6 weeks for 1 st dose) 2, 4, 6, and 15-18 months	0.5 mL intramuscular IM Preferred site for administration for children under 1 year of age is the anterolateral thigh (vastus lateralis)	Dose 1 to 2 – 4-8 weeks Dose 2 to 3 – 4-8 weeks Dose 3 to 4 – 6-12 months
Infanrix® (GlaxoSmith Kline)	Booster dose: 4-6 years, before entering school		5 th dose (booster) not needed if the 4 th dose was given on or after the fourth birthday.



*Whenever possible, the same brand of DtaP vaccine should be used for all doses of the vaccination series. However, vaccination should not be deferred because the brand of DtaP used initially is not known or is not in stock.

DTaP Vaccine Recommendations:

- DTaP vaccine is indicated for active immunization against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis.
- DTaP vaccine is indicated for children aged 6 weeks through 6 years of age.
- The fourth dose of DTaP is recommended to be given at 15-18 months of age. It may be given as early as 12 months of age, provided 12 months have elapsed since the third dose and if the child is unlikely to return at 15-18 months of age.
- The fifth dose recommended to be given at 4-6 years of age is not needed if the fourth dose was given on or after the fourth birthday.

DTaP Comments:

- Whether and when to administer DTaP to children with proven or suspected underlying neurologic disorders should be decided individually.
- Generally, infants and children with stable neurologic conditions (including well-controlled seizures) may be vaccinated.

Contraindications

- Severe allergy (e.g., anaphylactic reaction) to vaccine component or following a vaccine dose.
- Acute, moderate or severe illness with or without fever until illness has improved or resolved.
- Encephalopathy not due to another identifiable cause occurring within 7 days after vaccination.

Vaccine Storage & Handling

- Vaccine should be stored in the refrigerator between 35 and 46°F. Aim for 40°F.
- If vaccine is exposed to out of range temperatures (above 46°F or below 35°F) do not use.

- For diphtheria vaccination of contacts to diphtheria cases – see Td educational flyer.

DTaP Adverse Reactions:

- Erythema and induration with or without tenderness at the injection site, persisting for a few days, are not unusual.
- Fever, drowsiness, fretfulness, and anorexia occur but are less common in children who receive DTaP than with DTP.
- Severe, local reaction may occur, particularly in persons who have had multiple doses.
- The occurrence of local reactions is more likely with the fourth and fifth doses of DTaP vaccine.
- Moderate to severe systemic events (such as fever $\geq 105^{\circ}\text{F}$, febrile seizures, persistent crying lasting ≥ 3 hours, and hypotonic hyporesponsive episodes) have been rarely reported after DTaP administration.
- Anaphylaxis rarely occurs.
- Swelling involving the entire thigh or upper arm has been reported after booster doses of certain acellular pertussis vaccines.
- Limb swelling may be accompanied by erythema, pain and fever.
- Although leg swelling may interfere with walking, most children have no limitation of activity.

Precautions

History of one of the following occurring after a prior dose:

- Temperature of 105°F or higher within 48 hours that is not due to another identifiable cause.
- Collapse or shock-like state (hypotonic hyporesponsive episode) within 48 hours of vaccination.
- Persistent, inconsolable crying lasting 3 hours or longer, occurring within 48 hours of vaccination.
- Convulsions with or without fever occurring within 3 days of vaccination.
- GBS within 6 weeks (for DT) of vaccination.
- If precautionary event occurs, weigh the risks and benefits of further doses of DtaP. Use DT if risks outweigh benefits.

